BACH Prelude and Fugue No. 1 in C Major (Ave Maria)

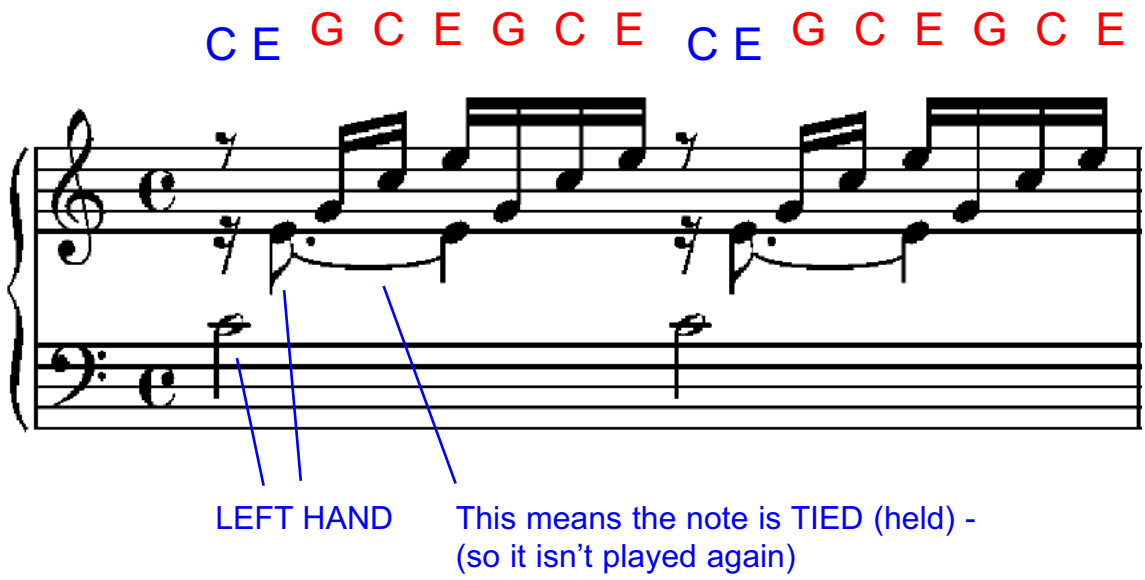
(from The Well Tempered Clavier Book 1)

This beautiful Prelude by Bach is a great piece to sightread because it sounds incredibly impressive yet is relatively easy to play once you discover the repetitive pattern.

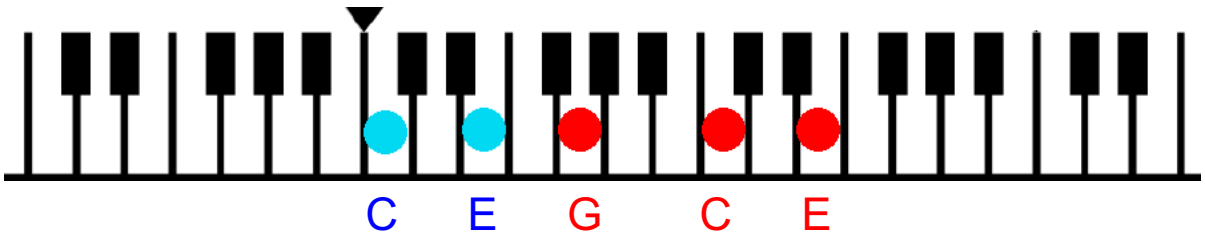
The secret is that each bar uses a repeat pattern of 5 notes. So once you find the 5 notes you can play the rest of the bar while studying the NEXT bar to find the next 5 notes and so on.

Look at the musical notation for the first bar. Observe the process.

1. The left hand plays the first 2 notes
2. then the right hand plays the next 3 notes and then repeats them
3. Then all the above is repeated for the second half of the bar



Bar 1 notes



Now it's time to try the whole piece.
There are two versions - one with the five notes written out and one without.
Try to play without the 'safety net' as soon as you can.

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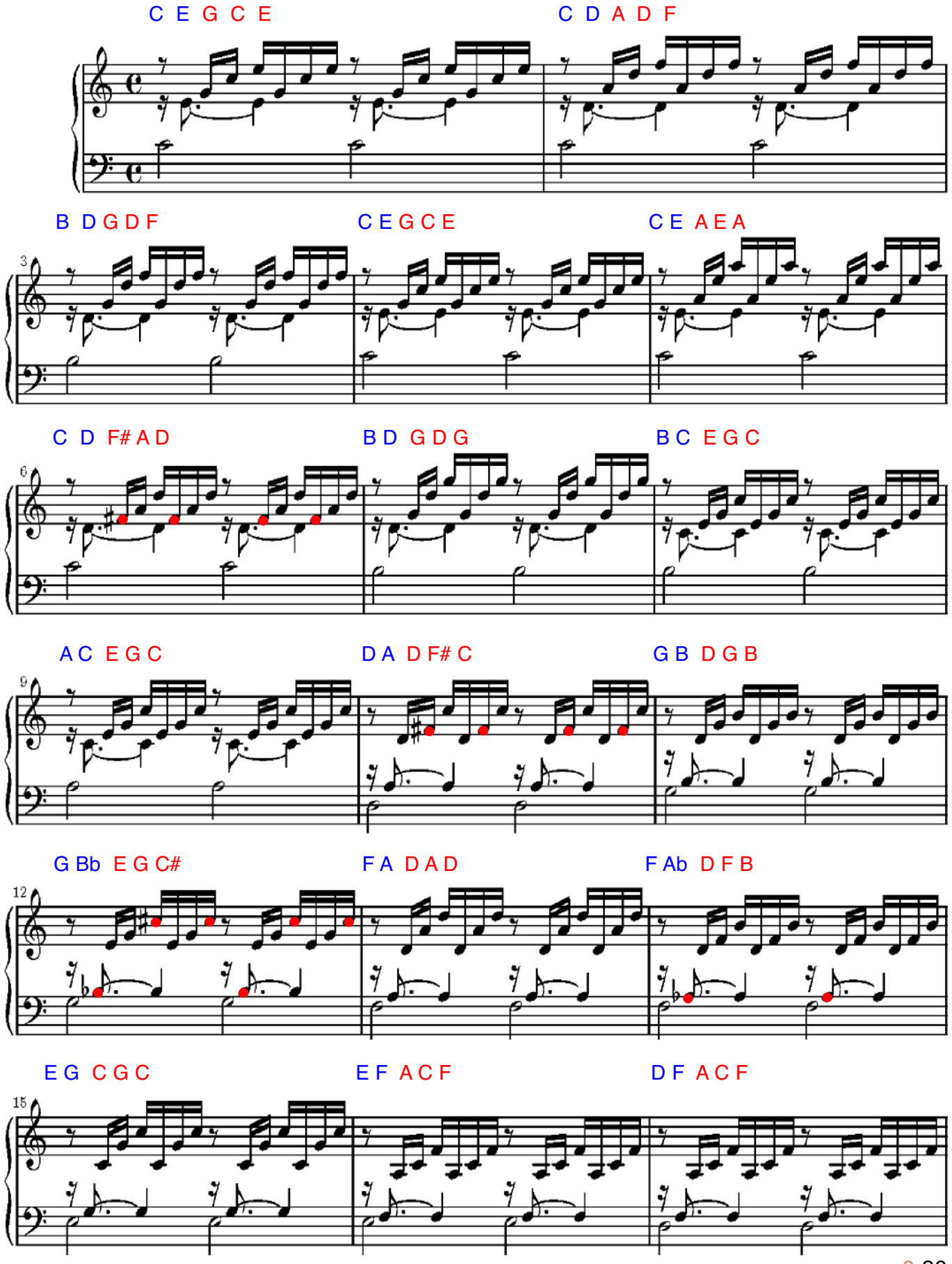

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(page 2)

G D G B F
C E G C E
C G Bb C E
18
F F A C E
F# C A C Eb
Ab F B C D
21
G F G B D
G E G C E
G D G C F
24
G D G B F
G Eb A C F#
G E G C G
27
G D G C F
G D G B F
C C G Bb E
30
C C F A C F C A C A F A F D F D C C G B D F D B D B G B D F E D C Bckwds
33